

# THE MIDSTATE NEWS

## MIDSTATE A.R.C.

PUBLICATION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1986

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SEC/TREAS-Tom Carroll N9AZD .. 535-8047  
TRUSTEE-Darrell Sego, KM9S .... 736-4049  
ACTIVITIES-Paul Thomas, KA9DTH 881-6338  
C.E.A.-Dave Wendt, KA9OOH..... 784-1044

### NEXT MEETING

January 18, 1986  
HOUSE OF FRANKLIN  
FRANKLIN, INDIANA  
Breakfast: 0730  
Meeting: 0800

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The Midstate News is published by the Midstate Amateur Radio Club, a non-profit organization which provides amateur communications for central Indiana communities, and activities for the active hams. Any and all submissions are welcome, and must be postmarked by the 26th day of the month prior to release. Membership queries should be directed to Tom Carroll, N9AZD at 535-8047. Midstate ARC owns and maintains the N9AZD/R repeater on 146.835 MHz.

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**THERE WILL BE NO COSMIC  
ORDER OF R.F. DUE THE  
COMPUTER CHANGEOVER. IT  
WILL RETURN NEXT ISSUE.**

## C.E.A. OFFICE ESTABLISHED!

Dave Wendt, KA9OOH has assumed the new office of Coordinator of Emergency Activities. Presently, Dave is in charge of developing and initiating procedures for the involvement of Midstate members in emergency related activities. Included in these activities are Midstates association with University Heights Hospital, ARES, RACES and INSERT.

A board meeting last November 15 approved a proposal to be presented to the membership on the November 16 meeting, where the C.E.A. position was voted in and adopted.

Dave, a Marion County resident, was handed the position of Johnson County E.C. by Dan Dews, KK9G without the sanction of the Indiana Section Manager, Bruce Woodward. Bruce assures us, however, that there is no problem in having a Marion County resident hold the Johnson ARES E.C. office; in fact, as of the time this article is being written, the wheels are in motion to make Dave our new E.C..

Midstate now has the means to establish itself as a credible source of assistance. Good luck Dave!

### THANKS LENDEL...

Midstate News tips its hat to Lendel Cook, W9LNX for his generous contribution to this issue.

### KI9R IS BIG TIME!

Til Kinser has been asked to be the editor of a national VEC newsletter, called "THE EXAMINER DISPATCH." He already has some contributing editors from his local publication. Our own Dave Distler, KN9E has replaced Til in the VE core leader position for the territory. Midstate members are truly involved in the continuation of our hobby.

**BZZZZ.....**

For well over a year now Jim Williams, N9EJR has suffered the ultimate torment of the amateur operator: inherent line noise. On the broadcast band and on the lower short

13

wave bands communications is impossible due to the constant buzz. What's worse, Jim is virtually bi-lingual and his talents were in great demand during last September's devastating earthquake in New Mexico.

Two months ago, Jim filed a written complaint to the F.C.C, politicians and the source of the noise, Public Service of Indiana. Not to be ignored, Jim also sent carbons to the local media. What happened?

By early November, all of Central Indiana became aware of Jim's plight. Most notable was an on-sight interview with Kim Sanders of Channel 8 News. "She actually heard the noise," Jim said. "I turned on the rig for her." The Franklin based Daily Journal also published a small report on the situation.

"A man by the name of Mark Gardner, an employee of P.S.I. is 'handling' my case. I've been told through the past year that the reasons for the lack of action was due to strikes, recovery from strikes, over-burdened by new installations, budget crisis and problems related to co-ordinating employees. The noise is as bad as ever."

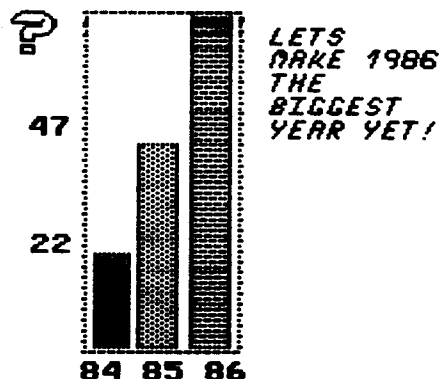
The sympathetic television viewers and newspaper readers no doubt have forgotten the report, and those who haven't probably assume "they'll take care of it." In truth, while this article is being written hams who speak fluent Spanish are badly needed to handle traffic developed by the earthquake in Columbia.

Jim, like the editor, would like to know what we as a club could do to back him up. It is noted that Jim lives very near a substation. But does a substation really have to be that noisy? If it does, then why doesn't P.S.I. make a statement to that effect, and present the reasons why in a reasonably short period of time?

Your editor called the Plainfield corporate offices of P.S.I. in an effort to determine who a concerned individual could write to effect the most action. If you wish

to write the Chairman of the Board, please send a coherent and effective view of your concern in writing to:

HUGH A. BARKER  
PUBLIC SERVICE OF INDIANA  
1000 E. MAIN  
PLAINFIELD  
IN 46168



MIDSTATE MEMBERSHIP  
JANUARY TOLL

## HAMHOCKS

Thunderbird JR Tribander, 10-15-20 meters in good condition, \$50.00. Call Dan Troglin, 356-5956

Last chance! High performance CW/RTTY station interface, rack mount, designed to eliminate clutter and cables. Many features, with Vic 20 computer, Hamsoft, composite monitor and instructions. \$200.00 Call Brad, NB9M at 882-5245

Do you have some gear you would like to sell or trade? Looking for something in particular? Drop us a line or give us a call to get your ad in HAMHOCKS.

## NOVEMBER MEETING

Amateur radios involvement in the upcoming Pan-Am games was the topic addressed to 25 members on the cold Saturday morning. Steve Abner, KB9B and Don Walker, WA9KZP were the guest speakers. Bob Flood, W9BBE won the Kerchunker "Kitty",

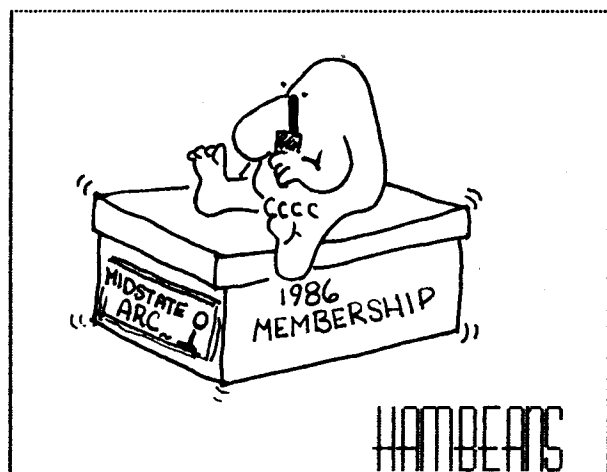
legitimatizing, incredibly, the efforts of WD9DVA. Details of the second annual Masonic and Methodist homes Christmas message handling were addressed, and the office of C.E.A. was ushered in (details, front page headlines.)

Steve commented: "Nice group you've got here!" So, we picked up his breakfast tab.

## DECEMBER MEETING

The December 14 meeting of the Midstate ARC was attended by 13 people, one of which was lucky enough to win the Kerchunker fund. That person was Al Soltis. Apparently he showed up late, after the drawing had already taken place. When he did arrive, his coat was barely on the rack before he donated his buck. And then he turned around and donated his winnings to the club. Al, you're quite a guy. Thanks.

The announcement of Dave Wendts acceptance into the ARES fold was announced. The meeting adjourned early to go to the Masonic and Methodist Homes to gather Christmas messages to handle for our older friends. Thanks to all those who assisted in this cause. Joan Kemp, N9DON mentioned that the folks really enjoyed our presence, and many more messages were gathered by just being there as opposed to the forms that were previously filled out and put in the box for us.



WE'RE GONNA NEED A BIGGER BOX!

**ADVERTISERS-  
THIS SPACE COULD BE  
YOURS FOR A SMALL  
DONATION. WHO CAN  
SPREAD THE WORD OF  
YOUR SALE FASTER  
THAN 50 CONFIRMED,  
DIEHARD YACKERS?**

**NO ONE.**

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

No doubt about it, winter has come to Indiana. As we all begin to seek refuge in our ham shacks let's not lose sight of the club activities during the new year. Midstate ARC possesses a rare quality: the more activities it has, the more energy it develops. I appreciate the support everyone has given our various projects during 1985. And 1986 should be even more exciting for club members.

As I reflect back on 1985 the phrase "you've come a long way baby" comes to mind. We have a new repeater, a new site, a new frequency, even a new Ham Shack, or at least a building the repeater can call "home". 1986 should be a year to continue our growth cycle. We plan to add a few new bells and whistles to the repeater. The first priority is a phone patch. With a little help from the weather man we might get some of the required hard line and antennas installed before spring.

Of course, no program is without it's financial burden. My thanks to those who have continued to make extra donations to the President's Fund and the Kerchunker Fund so that we may continue to maintain a solid

financial base for repeater improvements.

And let's not forget the unsung heros who have spent many hours working on the facilities and fine tuning the repeater. Without your special efforts none of this would be possible.

Let's resolve in 1986 to see the club grow in membership and fellowship. Remember, the more members we have the more improvements we can make on our fine repeater system in Johnson County. I know, by working together, we can make the Midstate ARC the best club in Indiana.

My best to each of you in 1986.

Jack  
N9EXK

## C.E.A. REPORT

"Oh! Oh! There's a weather alert out! I'd better get in touch with OOH and have him start a net! Oh, darn! He's not home! What do I do now?

Here's what you do: start a net yourself! Any ham can act as a net control in an emergency situation; you don't have to wait for an appointed E.C. to come on the air.

In Indiana, the primary ARES frequency is the 10/70 repeater, so I've set it in one memory in my synthesized rig, and our repeater in an adjoining memory. That way, I can switch back and forth instantly, without going through all the channels. I've done it similarly on the mobile rig. Rockbounds can easily switch the crystals around to do the same thing.

Anyway, the main theme of this is that any ham can act as a net control when necessary; you don't have to wait, and you shouldn't. When there is an emergency, and hams are needed, wade right in. Being a net control isn't hard (if I can do it...) and a vital function. So if we're needed, be there!

## QRM DE NBOM

This issue marks the one year mark for

me, as editor of this publication. I didn't have any idea how much fun I would be having; originally the idea of doing a newsletter was along the lines of a time consuming nuisance. Time consuming, yes, as it turns out, but far from being a nuisance. The Midstate News has been fun, in a challenging sort of way, since it appeared on my doorstep.

I want to thank each and every one of you who make this work, and again pledge to keep this publication a valuable asset to our organization.

Some of you may have noticed yet another new feature in this issue: a new type of print. This very readable print is a result of the remarkably powerful word processor Gutenberg, coupled with an expanded Apple II computer. I have alot to learn about this new system, but for now it's safe to say that an average of 30 percent more text can be employed in the same amount of space as before. Additionally, we now have the ability to put pictures and other graphics on the same disk as the text.

This years resolution may be difficult. Our goal is to make Midstate News able to pay its own costs, except possibly postage. This would be possible through the use of advertising and offers, such as the QSL offer in this issue. Of course, being a club publication, all funds will be routed through the Midstate ARC treasury. But one less burden on the clubs finances will benefit all.

All of us here at the sprawling Corporate Headquarters (Jay and I) wish you all a happy New Year!

## HAM OF THE DAY

Mark Quebe, N9EKG

Mark originally got his ticket around 1965, as WA9AZU, and let his ticket lapse. Nearly two years ago, Mark tried again and got his new call and renewed interest.

Three harmonics, Aaron, Greg and Erika keep him too busy to spend all the time he

would like at his Kenwood TS180, complete with his tribander and new 2KW linear. But sometimes his lovely wife Susan keeps them out of the shack when 40 opens up.

Mark is employed at Indianapolis Power and Light as Director of Planning.

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS

January 5 ..... South Bend  
 February 23 ..... LaPorte  
 March 2 ..... Winchester  
 March 9 ..... Martinsville  
 May 18 ..... \*Wabash  
 May 18 ..... Evansville (Tri-State)  
 June 1 ..... Terre Haute  
 June 8 ..... Muncie  
 June 15 ..... Lake County  
 JULY 12-13 ..... INDY HAMFEST  
 August 3 ..... \*Angola  
 August 10 ..... Marion  
 August 17 ..... Lafayette  
 August 24 ..... \*Argos  
 August 31 ..... \*Bloomington  
 October 12 ..... \*Bedford  
 November 9 ..... Fort Wayne

\*unconfirmed dates

## ACTIVITIES

The posters and message forms were placed at the Indiana Masonic Home and the Methodist Home in Franklin shortly after the Thanksgiving Holiday. Following the meeting on December 14th, several members went to the homes to pick up messages and assist those with questions or problems. The clubs thanks go to NB9M for preparing the posters and to N9DZR for supplying the message forms (also KA9DTH who printed and placed the posters -ed). Additionally, thanks to

those who went to the homes with WB9AYB and N9DON to collect the traffic. It appears that the number of messages is down from last year but the service is appreciated by those who are using it. WB9OZZ and his team will hopefully have all of it delivered by the time you read this.

Looks like most of you want another club Swapfest this late winter or early spring. Look for more news on this soon.

Paul  
 KA9DTH

## N9AZD REPEATER

The repeater has been functioning very well since WB9YAJ replaced a few components (remember the late fall storm that brought the machine to its knees and NB9M and WB9YAJ to the bench?). The emergency power supply worked well after a few adjustments. Tnx to N9EKG for the construction work. We will be scheduling a meeting for those interested in the repeater after the holidays. We need to get busy on the autopatch and need to make a decision on building new cavities or purchasing commercial grade. KA9MUU has offered to assist with construction if we choose to build another set. WB9YAJ feels the present cavities are on their last leg.

Spare parts, etc., for the repeater are stored in my garage. Call if you need something.

Paul  
 KA9DTH

**THE MOST ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL  
 CLUBS IN THIS STATE ARE THE ONES  
 WITH ENERGETIC LEADERSHIP AND A  
 MEMBERSHIP THAT DEMANDS ACTIVITY.**  
 -RON KOCZOR, K9TUS

*FROM THE IND. SECTION ARRL LETTER*

Thanks to THE BEACON for the following information:

## DAILY NET ACTIVITY

Indiana Code Net (ICN) .....	3708 KHZ 0015Z
Indiana CW Net (QIN) .....	3565 KHZ 0000Z
.....	0300Z
.....	1430Z
Indiana Weather Net (IWN) .....	3910 KHZ 1310Z
Indiana Traffic Net (ITN) .....	3910 KHZ 1330Z
.....	2130Z
.....	2300Z
Indiana RTTY Net (IRN) .....	3630 KHZ 0000Z
Midwest RTTY Net (MRN) .....	7078.5 KHZ 0230Z

## WEEKLY TWO METER NETS

Monday, 10pm, 146.10/70 .....	CW code practice
Monday, 7:30pm, 146.34 .....	Shelby Co. ARES Net
Tuesday, 7:00pm, 146.16/76 .....	Marion Co. RACES Net
Tuesday, 7:30pm, 144.73/145.33 .....	Hancock County ARES/RACES Net
Tuesday, 7:30pm, 147.90/30 .....	Hendricks Co. ARES Net*
Wednesday, 7:30pm, 146.10/70 .....	Marion Co. ARES Net*
Wednesday, 9:00pm, 144.79/145.39 .....	Madison Co. ARES Net
Wednesday, 9:30pm, 147.66/06 .....	Morgan Co. ARES Net*
Thursday, 8:00pm, 147.90/30 .....	PSIRA Westlink Broadcast
Sunday, 7:00pm, 146.235/835 .....	Midstate ARC/Johnson Co. ARES Net

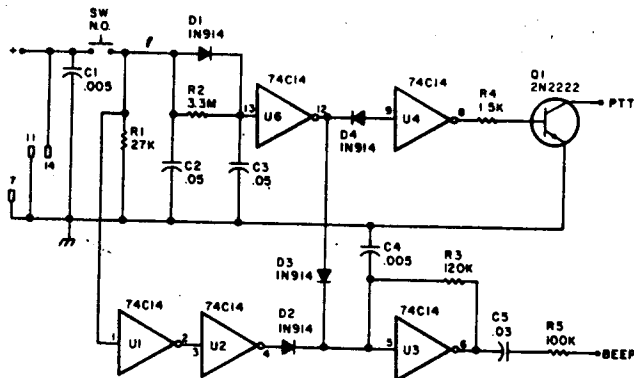
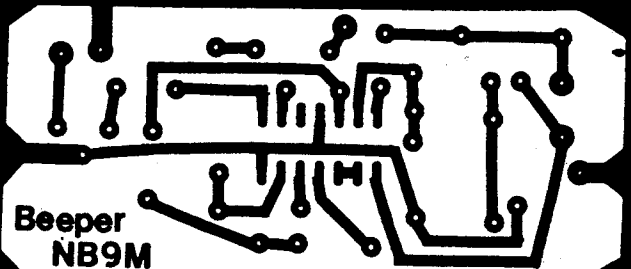
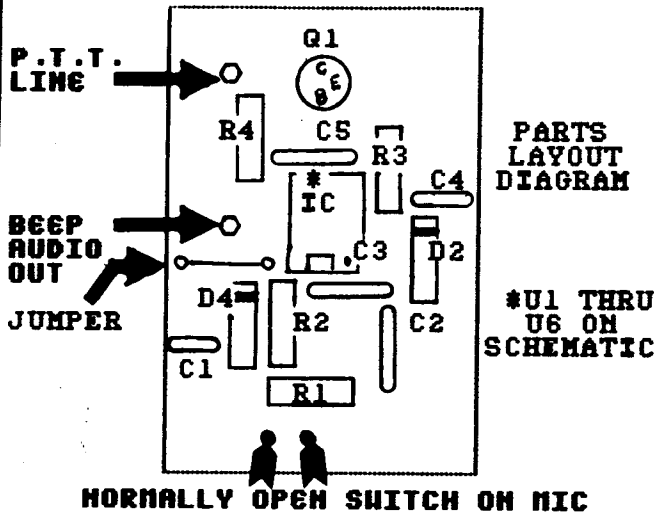
## MONTHLY NETS

Last Sunday, 6:15pm 3910 KHZ .....	Indiana Section ARES Net
First Monday, 6:00pm 147.78/18 MHZ .....	AREA III East ARES/EC Net
Last Tuesday, 8:00pm 147.60/00 MHZ .....	AREA VII ARES/EC Net
Last Wednesday, 8:00pm 146.10/70 MHZ .....	AREA V ARES/EC Net

\*ARRL Bulletins Broadcast

# PRESENTS

## THE LITTLE BEEPER



Nearly every active amateur has engaged in an interesting QSO and either had the band change drastically or experienced QRM from some inconsiderate lid. Communication becomes more and more difficult, and every time you would turn it over to the other ham there would be a long pause or a double because you and him/her are uncertain due to the conditions whose turn it really is. Wouldn't every active contesteer like to eliminate dupes? How about a competitive edge in a pileup, due to a distinctive signal?

A short, audible BEEP often solves many of the problems amateurs encounter when communicating becomes competitive. This simple circuit, adapted (and "fixed" so it would work!) from March 1984 73, will run on any CMOS voltage source, 5 to 15 volts. Using the normally open side of your P.T.T. switch on your microphone makes installation simple. The beep audio can be inserted in parallel with the microphone audio input. PC boards, pre-drilled, are available.

# THE AMAZING MIDSTATE NEWS QSL CARD OFFER!

- LOW COST
- MADE TO FIT YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS
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- BEST OF ALL, ALL OF THE PROCEEDS  
WILL GO TO THE MIDSTATE NEWS FUND!

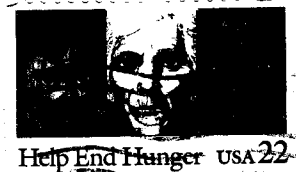
FOR ONLY \$10.00  
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WE WILL ALSO MAKE  
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LETTERHEADS AND  
NAMEPLATES (CALL  
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NSDON, V.P.  
Joan Kemp  
1709 Crescent ST.  
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## Hoosier Hams in Action